

August 28, 2009

### **OBEY PARTICIPATES AT UW-MARATHON COUNTY CAMPUS GROUND BREAKING**

WAUSAU, WI – Seventh District Congressman Dave Obey (D-WI) participated today in the ground breaking ceremony for a major expansion project at the UW-Marathon County campus in Wausau. Obey secured more than \$5 million in federal funding for the new facility. The design will be a two-story, 33,000 square foot building that will house offices for four programs currently contained in UW-Marathon County's main building located at 518 S. Seventh Avenue.

"The UW-Marathon County campus and Northcentral Technical College play a key role in providing opportunity for young people to go to college," Obey said, "I know from personal experience because the UW-Marathon County campus in Wausau made it possible for me to afford a college education."

"I am glad to be here today to see the start of the new UW-Marathon County building," said Obey, "I know that the community will benefit greatly from this new facility and the good jobs created in the construction process as well." The Congressman chairs the House Appropriations Committee. The funding Obey secured includes a federal grant of \$3.168 million in fiscal year 2006 and \$1.9 million in March of this year to help with construction costs for the building. Marathon County is providing \$3 million for the project. The building is part of a 25-year plan for the UW-Marathon County campus and Marathon Park.

The Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service, UW-Marathon County Continuing Education Department, the regional Wisconsin Public Radio office, and the Communications and Theater Arts Department will be located in the new building.

The building is expected to be completed in November of 2010.

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